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October 10, 2003

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OCT 1 6 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application Serial No. 09/108,189

For: An Introducer Sheath For Use During A Surgical

PROCEDURE

Our Reference No: 23660-00611

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-referenced application are the following documents:

(1) Transmittal Form (1 sheet); and

(2) Amendment and Response (12 sheets).

Please date-stamp the enclosed copy of this letter, thereby acknowledging receipt of the above-identified documents.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN N. COULBY, Reg. No. 43,565

ADRIANA L. ZACHOUSKY, Reg. No. 48,564

JNC/ejw

Enclosures

Cc: Dr. Howard Tanner

Dr. Hugh Trout

TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial) Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Filing Date First Named Inventor Art Unit Examiner Name	Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031 and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE of information unless it displays a valid QMB control number. 09/108,189 July 1, 1998 Howard TANNER 3763 J. Thissel
Fee Transmittal Form Fee Attached Amendment/Reply After Final Affidavits/declaration(s) Extension of Time Request Express Abandonment Request Information Disclosure Statement	ENCLOSURES (Check all that a	After Allowance Communication to a Technology Center (TC) Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information
Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNA Firm or Individual Signature Date October 10, 2003	Remarks TURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNE No. 43,565 Y, Reg. No. 48,564	RECEIVED OCT 1 6 2003 TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700 Y, OR AGENT

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: Typed or printed Signature Date

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.